133 Calicut, Cochin, Alleppey, Quilon and Trivan-
361 drum), are situated on the coast, divided by chains of little fishing villages. In the northern
133 half a railway runs along its edge from Manga-
361 lore in South Canara, southeast to Shoranur,
496 where it divides and turns off northeast to Madras and south to Ernakulam, the capital of Cochin State. In the extreme south another railway comes in from Tinnevelly District in the east, and follows the coast from Quilon to Trivandrum. (See Map 1.)

133 The midlands comprise low hills and fertile
24 valleys. Broad strips of alluvial rice-lands lie in the valleys, thinning out as the land rises into the foothills of the Ghats. On the hill slopes are gardens of coconut palms, tapioca, plantains, pepper, ginger, rubber, cashew-nut trees, and many fruit trees such as jack and mango. Cashews (introduced by the Portuguese) and pepper have become for the past 100 years particularly important cash crops on the hill-slopes of North Malabar District, while bamboo is more prevalent in South Malabar District and Cochin. The coconut is ubiquitous and very important in the total economy. There are a few small bazaar
[361] towns, [3] but most of the people live in villages, on garden land surrounding or surrounded by wet paddy-flats.

133 The highlands rising into the Ghats are covered
[136] mainly by thick virgin forests harbouring wild elephant and small tigers. The foothills are
[162] sparsely populated by people of the same cultural groups as are found in the plains, while higher in the mountains live primitive tribes.

31: Slater S-5 (1916-1917) 1918 AWI India
Kerala AWII

There is hardly any public tank. One stream (channel) flows along the northern boundary of the desam during rainy seasons when the fields become flooded. But its utility is limited since with the summer the whole channel is dried up. There are private wells in all gardens and sometimes in the fields of corn. But they are shallow for the most part and the water-supply is inadequate. The ryots who are wretchedly poor cannot afford to utilise modern progress in the field of well-boring, nor are they conversant with such developments.

There are woods and forests near the desam as we have before mentioned, but they are of no practical use to the people. The forest, which is outside the boundary limit of this desam, is under Government supervision and people are not allowed to cut trees. Other resources of the forest, moreover, are hardly taken advantage of, partly by the general apathy of the cultivator for improvement and partly by its being situated sufficiently far to dissuade them from incurring the necessary loss involved. At the same time it is in a way an influence to the ryots' detriment, for tigers, boars, etc., which the Akalanum and Mattur hills breed occasionally, make nocturnal depredations on the ryots' stock and corn fields. The peasantry are helpless against these enemies.

Occupation of land.—The private jenmam ryotwari holdings during the year of settlement (fasli 1313) are classified as follows :—

Pattadars paying	Number.			Extent.		Assessment.	
	Single	Joint.	Total.	Acs.	C.	Rs.	A.
Re. 1 and less	2	...	2	...	50	1	8
Rs. 10 and less but over Re. 1	7	2	9	7	71	33	14
„ 30 „ „ „ 10 ...	3	2	5	18	21	96	7
„ 50 „ „ „ 30 ...	1	...	1	7	8	37	5
„ 100 „ „ „ 50 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 250 „ „ „ 100 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 500 „ „ „ 250 ...	1	...	1	99	56	401	13
„ 1,000 „ „ „ 500 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Over 1,000 ...	1	...	1	718	80	2,315	4
Total ...	15	4	19	851	86	2,886	3

Out of 851·86 acres no less than 818·36 belong to the two jenmi landlords. There are no occupants of Government jenmam ryotwari land in the same year.

Almost all kanomdars are themselves cultivators. The two jenmis, who are Brahmans by caste, and nearly 10 other families